

# The Means of Grace

MAY 14, 2023



## THE FORGOTTEN CORONATION

*"All hail the pow'r of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall; Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all, Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all. CW21 Blue #512 (vs.1)*

On Saturday, May 6, 2023, 8 months after his declaration as the next King of England, the coronation of King Charles III took place in London's Westminster Abbey. As the crown was placed on his head, the crowd shouted, "God save the King!" It was a grand and glorious celebration! Everyone had it on their calendar. Millions attended and even more watched it on TV. No one forgot the coronation of the new king.

On Thursday, May 18, 2023, 40 days after Easter, the church celebrated the coronation of our Lord as we remembered Jesus' ascension to rule at the right hand of the Father. The angels rejoiced as the Lamb slain for our salvation was enthroned: **"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever"** (Revelation 11:15B). Did we forget to celebrate the King of kings?



Did you say it on Thursday? "Happy Ascension!" "Merry Ascension!" None of those sound quite right, but make no mistake about it, Ascension is an important though oft forgotten festival in the church year. Yet on that day we celebrate Christ's ascension which again crowns him with heavenly glory!

But, before He was crowned with glory, the Lamb of God was crowned with thorns. Bearing our sins in His body, Jesus was nailed to a cross. A notice above His head declared the alleged "crime" for which He was condemned: **"Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews"** (John 19:19b). The watching crowds mocked Him because Jesus, who had saved others, would not save Himself. No one cried out, "God save the King!" Instead they shouted, **"He trusts in God; let God deliver Him now, if He desires Him"** (Matthew 27:43a). But God did not save this King from death. We, the sinners for whom He died, cannot forget "the wormwood and the gall" or His desolate cry, **"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"** (Matthew 27:46b).

Jesus did not save Himself. By His suffering and death, the King saved us. His body was taken down from the cross and sealed in a tomb. But then, as foreknown before the foundation of the world, God did save the King. On the first Easter morning, "God raised Him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for Him to be held by it" (Acts 2:24). Jesus, the thorn-crowned King, obeyed His Father, even to the point of death on a cross. **"Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the Name that is above every name, so that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father"** (Philippians 2:9-11).

With our sins washed away in His blood, we celebrate what our Lord did to save us. We could never do enough to be worthy of such a sacrifice. We take our own attempts to be righteous, our best works and, in repentant humility, spread these trophies at the feet of the Jesus. We hail the power of His exalted Name and acknowledge Him as Lord forevermore.

**May 21, 2023- Easter 7 / Ascension Observed**

8:30 AM Choir Practice  
**9:30 AM Worship**  
10:30 AM Fellowship  
11:00 AM Sunday School/Bible Class  
12:00 PM BIC  
6:00 PM Basketball



**Monday May 22, 2023**

6:00 PM Basketball

**Tuesday May 23, 2023**

10:00 AM Circuit in Eugene

**Wednesday May 24, 2023**

8:00 AM Confirmation class  
9:15 AM Chapel  
6:00 PM BIC – Bend Praise & Proclaim

**Thursday May 25, 2023**

8:00 AM Confirmation class  
6:30 PM Preschool Graduation

**Friday May 26, 2023**

8:00 AM Last Day of School – GLS  
Afternoon Elder Care Visits

**Saturday May 27, 2023**

10:00 AM Bible Information Class

**Sunday May 28, 2023 Pentecost**

8:30 AM Choir Practice  
**9:30 AM Worship**  
10:30 AM Fellowship  
11:00 AM Sunday School/Bible Class  
12:00 PM BIC  
6:00 PM Basketball

**Shirley Baker** who is in recovery from COVID. We ask God's healing and strength during this illness.

**Karl Werner** who continues in hospice care. We ask God's comfort and courage for the days ahead and the assurance of eternal life to come.



# CANYONVIEW SILVERTON IS BACK FOR A FULL WEEK!



Yes! We are planning to host our annual bible camp again this year at Camp Canyonview near Silverton on JUNE 25-30. A full week this year!

**Registration cost is \$260,  
and after June 2, \$270.**

Camp is a wonderful week for children to get away from screens and be with Christian friends. Follow Lutheran Bible Camp-Oregon on Facebook for more updates and to see

pictures from last year.

## For who?

- 4<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades in the fall of 2023

## What's the cost? – PLEASE CONSIDER BEING A SPONSOR!

### Door Offering for Sundays in June

- \$250 per camper early registration. Lodging, all meals, snacks, activities, crafts all included.

**We will be doing fund raising and asking for people to sponsor campers which will hopefully greatly reduce or eliminate the cost!**



## How can I register?

- Camp registration will start in the late spring. Pastor Luke Tembruell (Beautiful Savior, Corvallis) and Pastor Mark Swanson (Trinity, Eugene) will be our new camp directors.

## What happens after I register?

- Upon receiving your application / registration you will be sent:
  - ✓ a medical form that needs to be completed.
  - ✓ a packing list – things to bring and things not to bring to camp.
  - ✓ directions on how to get to camp.

## What should my child plan on at camp?

- Lots of fun. Great food. Great kids and new friends. Bible study! Fun games and activities for everybody. Time for swimming, canoeing, creek showers. A great week!

## What if I have more questions?

- Our contact person for Grace is:  
Gabby Baker at [turtlegb@hotmail.com](mailto:turtlegb@hotmail.com) or by cell phone: 503-403-8231

# REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

## Lutheran Bible Camp

### June 25-30

Lutheran Bible Camp is for children who will be going into the 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades next school year (fall 2023).

Bible Camp early registration began on May 1. Bible Camp is June 25-30 this year. Thanks to a generous donation from a local congregation the cost has been discounted 50 dollars for all campers. **Registration cost is \$260, and after June 2, \$270.** Camp is a wonderful week for children to get away from screens and be with Christian friends. Follow Lutheran Bible Camp-Oregon on Facebook for more updates and to see pictures from last year.

#### We Need Camp Counselors!

Lutheran Bible Camp has been a blessing to many here in Oregon, but it cannot continue without adults to provide a safe and fun environment. Camp counselors have a wonderful positive impact on the lives of young people. If you are interested in being a counselor at Bible camp this year, please contact Pastor Bitter or the camp director, Pastor Luke Tembreull ([pastor@corvallislutherans.org](mailto:pastor@corvallislutherans.org); 541-231-6189). Camp counselor costs are covered by the Oregon circuit of WELS churches. Thank you!



#### We Need a Camp Nurse!

After many years of service, Debbie Miller will no longer be able to serve as camp nurse. I would like to know if you have any nurses or other healthcare workers who would be able to fill her role? If so, would you be willing to give me their contact information so that I may contact them? Or you may share my information with them.

Registration is online this year. You may use the QR code to find the registration site or go to Lutheran Bible Camp – Oregon on Facebook for the link. Please like and follow our Facebook page for information and updates.

#### Questions:

Pastor Luke Tembreull: 5412316189  
[pastor@corvallislutherans.org](mailto:pastor@corvallislutherans.org)  
Pastor Mark Swanson: 9206096204  
[mdws89@gmail.com](mailto:mdws89@gmail.com)



Checks can be made out to “Lutheran Bible Camp” and mailed to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 2685 NW 13<sup>th</sup> St., Corvallis, OR 97330





Grace Lutheran School -

# **SOCCER CAMP**

**Monday, June 5 - Thursday, June 8**

**6:00-7:30 PM**

4 yr. olds - 8th grade

2252 SE 92nd Ave. Portland, OR 97216

Scan the QR code or visit  
[www.gracepdx.com/events](http://www.gracepdx.com/events) to register!





## Weekly Mowing!

Please consider signing up for spring and summer lawn care. The lawn at church needs to be cut every week... can you sign up for a weekend to cut.



## Weekly Cleaning!

Please consider signing up for spring and summer church cleaning. The church building needs to be cleaned each week and we could use your help!

## Weekly Fellowship Food & Drinks

Please consider signing up to host a Sunday by providing coffee, drinks, and food. A signup sheet is in the entryway at church.



## Vacant Home Demolition

We have no idea... but are hopeful this week! Permits were tied up in several municipal offices.

Since the initial cost does not include things like utility shutoff / capping; concrete driveway removal; new fencing; tree removal we will be asking for special gifts from the congregation to complete this important project.



## Supporting Our Neighborhood Foodbank

Mary & Martha is planning to support our neighborhood food bank, Mainspring Portland, on a regular basis. Once a month we will deliver donated food items to their location (82<sup>nd</sup> & Fremont). We will provide a list of most-needed foods requested by the food bank. If you want to participate in this project, please bring your donations by the last Sunday of the month. Mary & Martha will deliver the food donations after their monthly meeting. Baskets will be placed in the fellowship hall to collect your food donations.

The first collection of donated food items will be on May 28<sup>th</sup>. You may bring donations anytime: however, we will take the donated items after the first Sunday of the month. If you have any questions or concerns, please call or text Leann Breza, (360) 921-6673.

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### **Mainspring Foodbank most-needed foods:** (please no expired items):

- Canned proteins like tuna, chili, salmon, ham
- Soup
- Rice
- Cooking oil
- Peanut butter
- Cup of noodles
- Canned vegetables
- Canned stew
- Canned fish
- Canned beans
- Pasta (all varieties)
- Pasta sauce
- Instant oatmeal
- Instant potatoes
- Shelf stable milk
- Juice
- Condiments
- Fruit snacks
- Crackers
- Sugar free snacks
- Snacks for highschoolers



# Every Member Visit – Cottage Meetings



We are adjusting our every member meeting format to *cottage meetings*! Instead of meeting individually we are now planning to gather in groups of 10-15 to discuss our ministry at Grace.

Our next cottage meeting date is

**May 31st**

**6:30 PM**

**Grace Church**

*Please sign up for this meeting. Sign up in the entry way at church or email Pastor Bitter at*

*[tbitter@grace-wels.net](mailto:tbitter@grace-wels.net) or text at 503-290-6316.*



# What's Happening @Grace

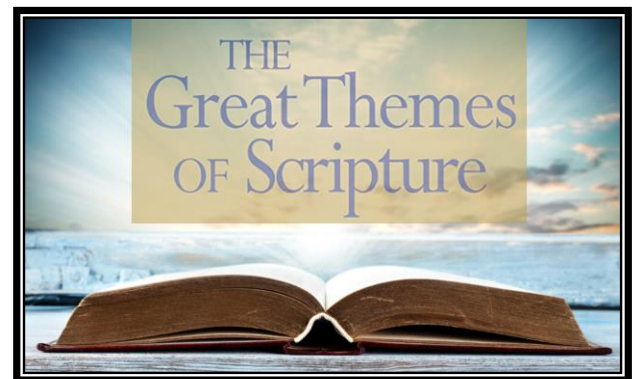
## Sunday Confirmation Class at 8:00 AM

We are beginning our Confirmation Classes for students who are not able to attend during the week at GLS. An email was sent out last week to gauge interest and find a time that would work. We have decided to offer Confirmation Class on Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM before morning worship. This class is especially for 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> graders but younger students are also welcome to attend. Classes begin next Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 AM.



## Wednesday Google Meet at 6:00 PM

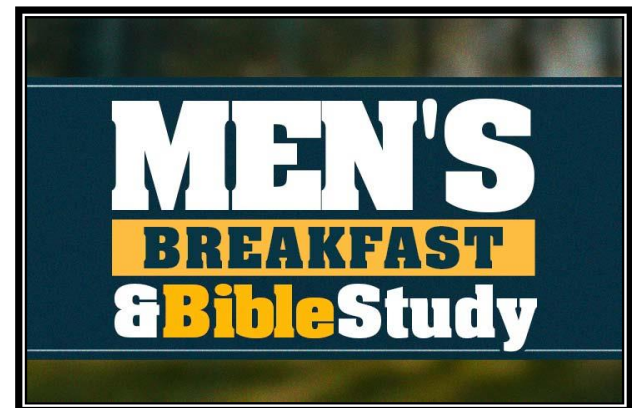
NO Class this week (May 24) – Pastor in Bend for BIC



## Saturday Men's Bible Study

We are planning to begin a men's bible study on **Saturday, May 20th**. To begin with, once a month we will plan to meet for bible study and breakfast.

Please let Pastor Bitter know if you'd be interested in attending or helping organize!



## Couples Class / Workshop – Sat. June 21

Getting married? Just Married? Been Married? This class is for you. We all want to have a healthy marriage. Healthy Marriage will help you learn those “dimensions of a healthy marriage.” More than that, Healthy Marriage will equip you to practice them and maintain the health of your marriage for years to come. Please look for more information about this class and opportunities to sign up in the coming weeks. We are targeting Saturday, April 29.

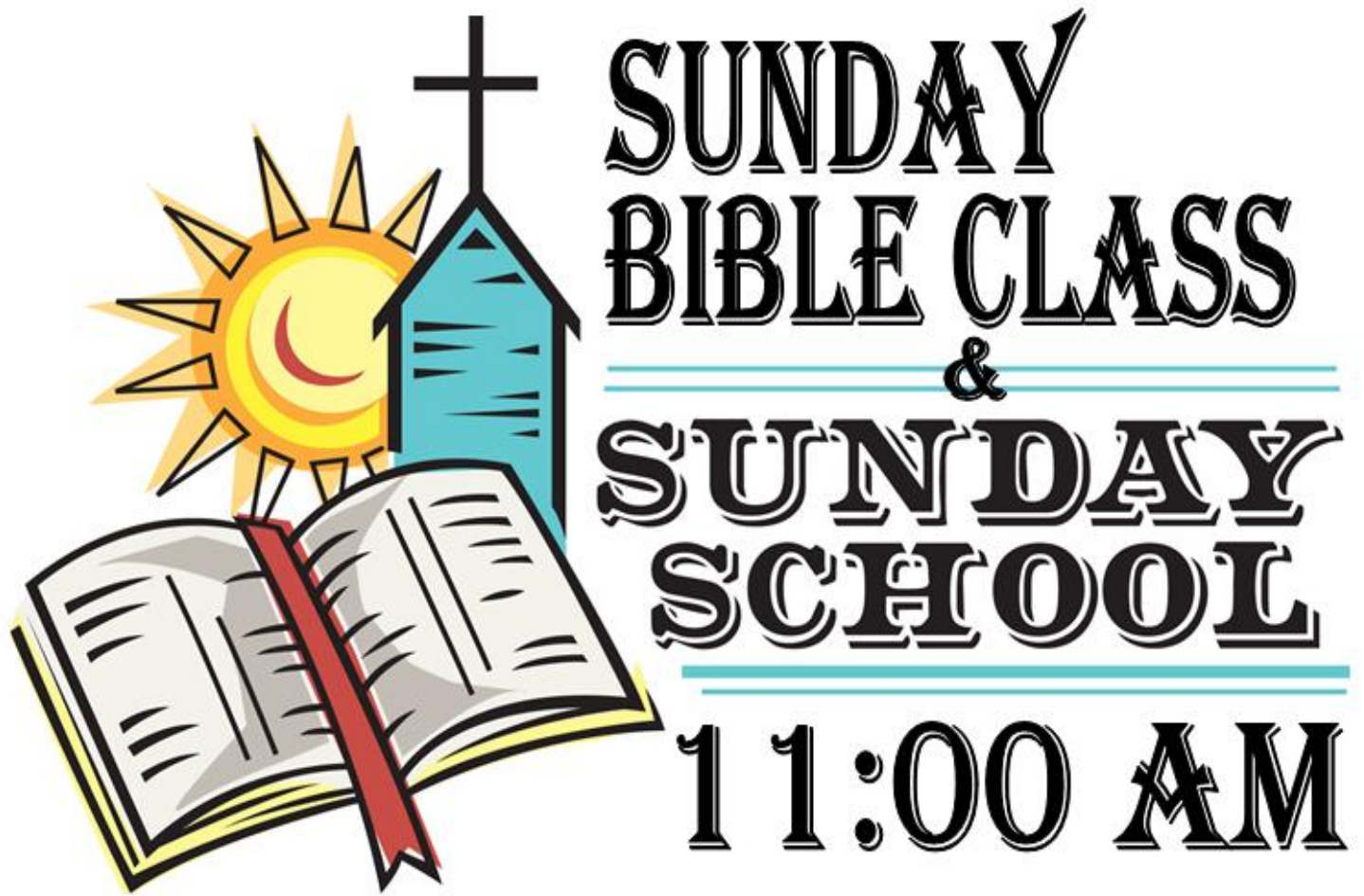


# Healthy MARRIAGE



Please sign up for this class. Sign up in the entry way at church or email Pastor Bitter at [tbitter@grace-wels.net](mailto:tbitter@grace-wels.net) or text at 503-290-6316.

**WEDNESDAY, June 21st**  
**Grace Lutheran Church**  
**6:30 PM**



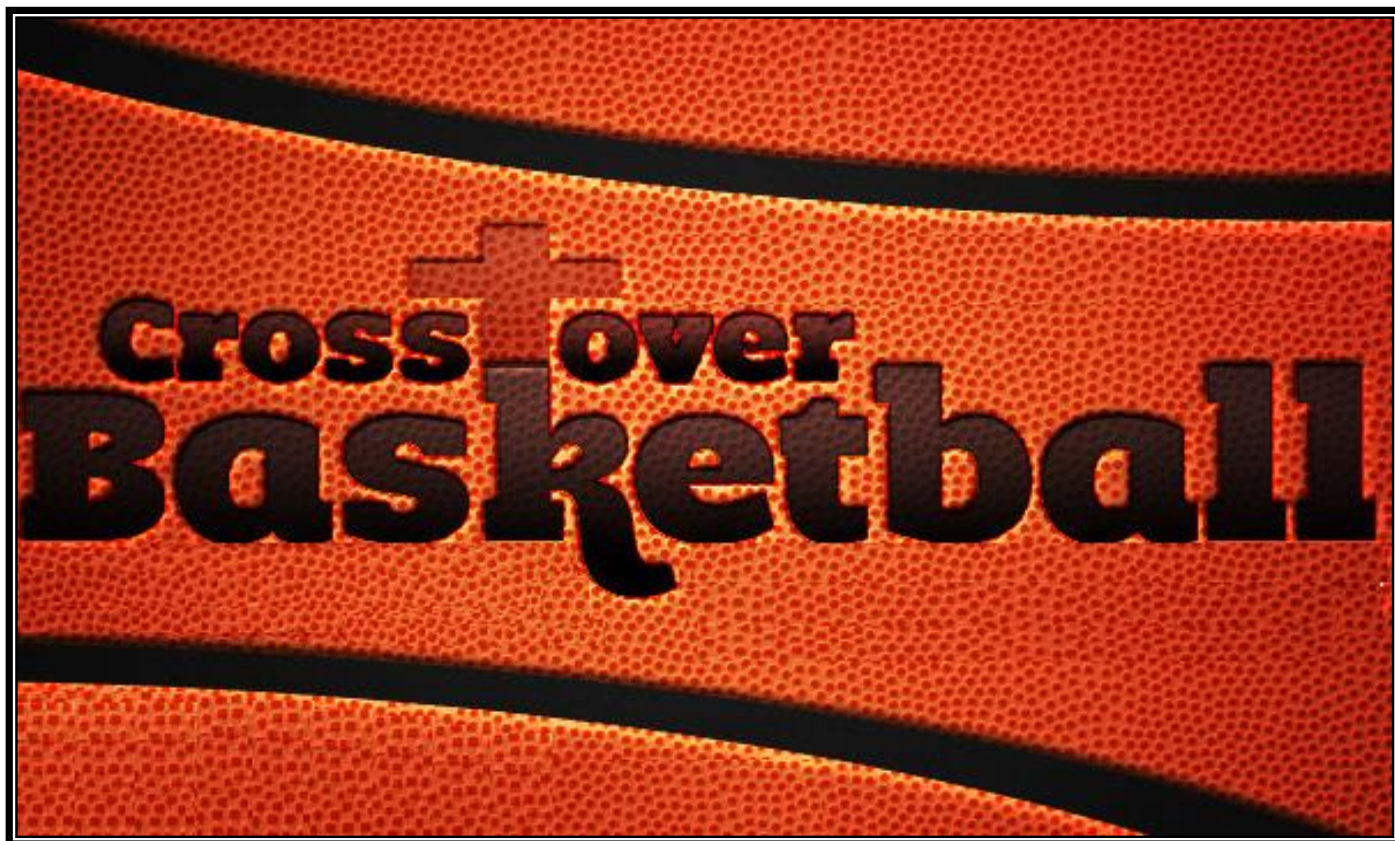
Please plan on joining us after worship on Sundays for Bible Class and Sunday for every age!

Following worship each Sunday we will continue to offer our refreshments & fellowship AND we will be adding to our opportunity for fellowship by offering Bible Class and Sunday School from 11:00 – 11:45. Please, plan to join us!

Sunday School will be offered for kids Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup>. Bible Study will be offered for teens and adults.

If you are interested in helping teach... please contact Pastor Bitter or Craig Baker.





**We would like to start our “Cross-over” Basketball nights again at our gym at Grace School again.**

**If you, or a group, would like to help organize, plan and carry out these basketball evenings please contact Pastor Bitter.**

**All you need to do is come and open the gym!**

**This event is for adults – high school age or older.**

**Bring your friends.**

**Get some exercise.**

**Dunk on someone.**

**Have fun.**

**Live your faith.**

**6:00 PM Sundays & Mondays**



# Boards & Committees at Grace

## Church Council

Juan Garcia – President  
Dan Paschke – 1 VP & BOE Chair  
Jon Cohrs - 2 VP & Secretary  
Thad Bitter – Pastor  
Justin Eternick – Principal



## Board of Education

Dan Paschke – Chair  
Michael Godish – Board Member  
Dave House -- Board Member  
James Settje – Board Member  
Thad Bitter – Pastor  
Justin Eternick – Principal



## Board of Elders

Craig Baker – Head Elder  
Courage Mudzongo  
Len Stadler  
Josh Luplow  
Pastor Bitter



## Worship Committee

Marilyn Baer  
Mark Leitzke  
Sue Hartwig  
Melissa Baker  
Olivia Baker  
Pastor Bitter



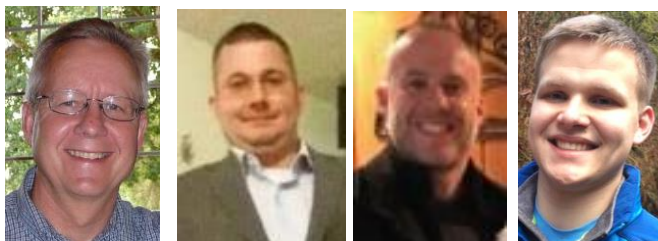
## Mary & Martha

Sara Hehr – Co/Presidents  
Susan Lewallen – Co/Presidents  
Linda Bern – Secretary / Treasure  
Faye Rutstein – LWMS Representative  
Pastor Bitter



## Trustees

Ed Gillespie  
Brian Boyer  
Matt Ginnow  
Kyle Leitzke



# DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS FOR THE FESTIVAL OF ASCENSION 2023

## Sunday Exodus 14:21-26

- Describe the scene before us. See previous verses.
- Describe the fantastic event which unfolded. How could God do this?
- Describe God's judgment on Pharaoh. Who deserves such judgment?
- How did God remove this judgment from us? Matthew 27:46.

## Monday Exodus 14:27-28

- How complete was the annihilation of the Egyptian army?
- How complete will the judgment of all unbelievers be?
- How complete was the destruction of judgment against us on the cross? Mt.27:47-56
- How does Jesus' Ascension reveal God's satisfaction with Jesus payment for our sins?

## Tuesday Exodus 14:29-31

- How does the "wall of water" depict the greatness of this miracle?
- What does the word "feared" really mean in this context?
- What are our feelings when we behold the cross, the empty tomb and Christ's Ascension? John 1:7

## Wednesday Revelation 19:11-13

- In the spiritual sense who alone could ride this white horse and be called faithful and true?
- Take a close look at the other descriptive words and note how they can fit only one being.
- What is the significance of the name "Word of God"? John 1:1-2, 14

## Thursday Revelation 19:14-16

- Who makes up the armies of heaven? How many soldiers are in these armies? Matthew 26:53
- Who is the enemy? What chance does he have against such strength?
- What is this sharp sword which comes out of Jesus mouth? Ephesians 6:17
- Consider the name on his robe.

## Friday Luke 24:44-49

- What is the meaning and significance of verse 44 for us?
- Where do we find the Gospel of forgiveness? What reveals it to us?
- For whom is the Gospel of forgiveness intended? How does it get to all nations?
- How can we be the Messiah's witnesses? Who will help us do this? John 14:25-31.

## Saturday Luke 24:50-53

- Describe Jesus' Ascension? You might want to read Acts 1:6-11
- Describe the behavior of the disciples after Jesus left them?
- Think about (talk about) the meaning of the Ascension of Jesus for us? What significance does it have for us? Romans 6:5;

# Grace Lutheran Church - May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Easter 4</b> 8:00 AM Conf. 9:30 AM Worship Communion <b>ELHS SUNDAY</b> 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Sun. Sch. 11:00 AM Bible Cl. Noon: BIC 6:00 PM Basketball	<b>1</b> 6:00 PM Basketball	<b>2</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl.	<b>3</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl. 9:15 AM Chapel 6:00 PM Google Meet Bible Cl.	<b>4</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl.	<b>5</b> GLS NO School Olympics Day  Afternoon: Member Visits	<b>6</b> 10:00 AM BIC
<b>7 Easter 5</b> 8:00 AM Conf. 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Sun. Sch. <b>11:00 AM Cottage            Meeting at Church</b> Noon: BIC 6:00 PM Basketball	<b>8</b> 6:00 PM Basketball	<b>9</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl. 10:00 AM Mary and Martha 3:30 PM Staff Mtg 6:00 PM Elders Mtg.	<b>10</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl. 9:15 AM Chapel 6:00 PM Google Meet Bible Cl.	<b>11</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl.	<b>12</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl.  Afternoon: Member Visits	<b>13</b> 10:00 AM BIC
<b>14 Easter 6</b> <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b> 8:00 AM Conf. 9:30 AM Worship Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Sun. Sch. 11:00 AM Bible Cl. Noon: BIC 6:00 PM Basketball	<b>15</b> 6:00 PM Basketball	<b>16</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl.	<b>17</b> 8:00 AM Conf. 9:15 AM Chapel 6:30 PM 	<b>18 Day of Ascension</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl. 3:30 PM Worship Mt 6:00 PM Google Meet Bible Cl. <b>Special Study –            Ascension</b> 6:30 PM Leadership Mtg – Council & BOE	<b>19</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl.  Afternoon: Member Visits	<b>20</b>  7:00 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  2:00 PM Piano Recital at Grace Church
<b>21 Ascension Observed</b> 8:00 AM Conf. 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Sun. Sch. 11:00 AM Bible Cl. Noon: BIC 6:00 PM Basketball	<b>22</b> 6:00 PM Basketball	<b>23</b> 10:00 AM Circuit in Eugene	<b>24</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl. 9:15 AM Chapel  6:00 PM Bend Outreach BIC	<b>25</b> 8:00 AM Conf. Cl.  <b>6:30 PM            Preschool            Graduation</b>	<b>26</b> GLS Last Day of School & Picnic  Afternoon: Member Visits	<b>27</b> 10:00 AM BIC
<b>28 PENTECOST</b> 8:00 AM Conf. 9:30 AM Worship Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship 11:00 AM Sun. Sch. 11:00 AM Bible Cl. Noon: BIC 6:00 PM Basketball	<b>29</b> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> No School GLS	<b>30</b> <b>GLS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade            Graduation            6:00 PM</b>	<b>31</b> 6:00 PM Google Meet Bible Class 7:00 PM Member Cottage Meeting at Grace Church			